

Appl. No. 09/548,971  
Amdt. dated January 4, 2005  
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure  
Examining Group

PATENT

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the first paragraph on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

--This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/339,998, filed on June 25, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,410,826, issued on June 25, 2002, which claims benefit of priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/090,649, filed June 25, 1998, each of which is incorporated by reference in its entirety.--